#6 ou.17.2



## **PATENT APPLICATION**

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re A	pplication of:	)					
TETSUYA ITANO			Examiner: Unassigned				
Application No.: 09/976,096		;	Group Art Unit	Group Art Unit: 2612			
Filed:	October 15, 2001	:					
For:	IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS	)	April 3, 2002	RECEIVED			
				APR 0 5 2002			
The Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C., 20231				Technology Center 2600			

## <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

### **FOREIGN PATENT**

Patent No.	Country	Publication Date
9-23551	Japan	September 5, 1997

#### **REMARKS**

The listed documents were cited in an Office Action of a corresponding European application. A copy of the European Office Action is included as an English language statement of relevance for the Examiner's convenience.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

## **FEE STATEMENT**

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or prior to the mailing of an initial official action. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is required. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32,078

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			OIPE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015873			APPLICATION NO. 09/976,096			
	T AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	APR 0 3 2002	TETSUYA ITANO, ET AL.							
(Use several sheets if necessary) \April 3, 2002			PADEMARK C	FILING DATE October 15, 2001			001	GROUP Unassigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME CLASS		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,982,497	11/1999		Hopkins					
						RECEI		/ED		
						APR 0 5		2002		
						Technology Center 2600				
			FOREIC	3N PATI	ENT DOCUMENTS	-				
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
		9-232551	09/1997		Japan				Abstract	
								-		
		OTHER (	OOCUMENT(S) (Inclu	uding A	uthor, Title, Date, Pe	rtinent	Pages, Etc.)			
	OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	·	EPO Official Communication dated February 15, 2002 (ref. no. 2790830).								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED						

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.